

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 018403

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TO AMEMBASSY OSLO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018403

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, NO

SUBJECT: IEA - PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY

REF: A) OSLO 339; B) STATE 17235; C) STATE 9363;

D) STATE 14791;

1. THE FOLLOWING IS IN REPOSENSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY
AMBASSADOR BYRNE IN REFTEL A.

2. ENDERS-KLEPPE CONVERSATION JANUARY 16 WAS INCONCLUSIVE.
ENDERS REVIEWED US RESERVATIONS TO TEXT OF PROPOSED
NORWAY IEA AGREEMENT THAT HAD BEEN TABLED AT DECEMBER IEA
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, E.G. NEED FOR GREATER SPECIFICITY
REGARDING ESCAPE CLAUSE AND NORWEGIAN OBLIGATIONS; CONCERN
THAT INTEGRITY AND VIABILITY OF IEA NOT BE ERODED BY
SPECIAL TREATMENT FOR NORWAY WHICH MIGHT BE ATTRACTIVE TO
OTHER IEA MEMBERS WHO MIGHT NOW OR IN THE FUTURE QUALIFY
AS NET OIL EXPORTERS. KLEPPE INDICATED NO GIVE IN
NORWEGIAN POSITION AND ASKED ONLY THAT US WITHDRAW RESER-
VATIONS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 018403

3. ENDERS INDICATED US FLEXIBLE ON EXACT FORMULATION OF AGREEMENT AND SUGGESTED AS ALTERNATIVE A LIMITED REVISION OF DRAFT AGREEMENT (SPELLING OUT PRESUMPTION OF NORWEGIAN ACTION) AND SUPPLEMENTED BY STATEMENT BY THE NORWEGIANS TO THE IEA GOVERNING BOARD WHICH WOULD RESPOND

TO OTHER US CONCERNS (REFTEL C). ENDERS OFFERED TO PREPARE DRAFT OF SUCH A STATEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE NORWEGIANS.

4. FOLLOWING DAY (JANUARY 17) ENDERS INFORMED NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR THAT IN VIEW DAVIGNON'S STRONG DESIRE TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY, BRITISH LEGAL RESERVATIONS, AND OUR DESIRE TO CLARIFY CANADIAN PROBLEM WE WISHED TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH DAVIGNON PRIOR TO TRANSMISSION OF

DRAFT STATEMENT TO NORWEGIANS.

5. JANUARY 18 DISCUSSION WITH DAVIGNON IN BRUSSELS FOLLOWED DURING WHICH HE INDICATED BELIEF THAT NORWEGIAN POSITION NOT AS HARD AS INDICATED BY KLEPPE. AFTER SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH CANADIANS, JANUARY 20, WE RECOMMENDED THAT DAVIGNON RESUME DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NORWEGIANS ALONG LINES DESCRIBED REFTTEL D. TEXT OF PROPOSED NORWEGIAN STATEMENT REQUESTED BY AMBASSADOR CONTAINED REFTTEL B.

6. DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THAT EMBASSY NOT PASS TEXT OF PROPOSED STATEMENT TO NORWEGIANS PENDING DAVIGNON ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE WITH NORWEGIANS JANUARY 29, SINCE THIS MIGHT UNDERCUT DAVIGNON'S EFFORTS. YOU MAY WISH EXPLAIN TO FRYDENLUND OUR COMMITMENT TO DAVIGNON THAT HE UNDERTAKE INITIAL PRESENTATION OF TEXT TO NORWEGIANS.

7. DEPARTMENT HOPES ABOVE FILLS IN MISSING DETAILS REQUESTED BY AMBASSADOR AND WILL KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. INGERSOLL

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